

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-41 (cancelled).

42. (New) A dextrose hydrate in powder form, having:

a dextrose content at least equal to 98%,

an α crystalline form content at least equal to 95%,

a water content greater than 1%,

a compressibility determined according to a test A at least equal to 70 N, and

a flow grade at least equal to 60.

43. (New) A dextrose hydrate according to claim 42, having a water content in the range 2% to 10%.

44. (New) A dextrose hydrate according to claim 43 having a water content in the range 5% to 9.5%.

45. (New) A dextrose hydrate according to claim 42, having a compressibility of at least 90 N.

46. (New) A dextrose hydrate according to claim 45, having a compressibility in the range 90 N to 200 N.

47. (New) A dextrose hydrate in powder form according to claim 42, having a compressibility determined according to a test A in the range 150 N to 200 N and according to a test B at least equal to 170 N.

48. (New) A dextrose hydrate according to claim 47, having a compressibility determined according to a test B in the range 175 N to 300 N.

49. (New) A dextrose hydrate in powder form according to claim 42, having:
an apparent density, determined according to HOSOKAWA, of less than 0.7 g/ml, and
a mean diameter in the range 50 μm to 1000 μm .

50. (New) A dextrose hydrate according to claim 49 having an apparent density in the range 0.45 g/ml to 0.65 g/ml.

51. (New) A dextrose hydrate according to claim 50, having an apparent density in the range 0.5 g/ml to 0.6 g/ml.

52. (New) A dextrose hydrate according to claim 49, having a mean diameter in the range 100 μm to 500 μm .

53. (New) A dextrose hydrate according to claim 42, having a flow grade in the range 60 to 90.

54. (New) A process for the preparation of a dextrose hydrate in powder form according to claim 42 comprising a step involving the rehumidification/granulation, using water or glucose syrup, of a crystalline dextrose of substantially α form obtained directly by crystallisation or by partial or complete drying of a crystalline dextrose monohydrate, and a step involving the ageing/drying of the rehumidified/granulated dextrose thus obtained.

55. (New) A process according to claim 54 wherein the crystalline dextrose is an α crystalline dextrose having a water content greater than 1%.

56. (New) A process for the preparation of a dextrose hydrate in powder form according to claim 55, wherein the α crystalline dextrose has a water content in the range of 2% to 10%.

57. (New) A process according to claim 54 wherein the crystalline dextrose is an α crystalline dextrose having a water content at most equal to 1%.

58. (New) A process for preparation according to claim 54, wherein the granulation step is carried out in a continuous mixer-granulator.

59. (New) A dextrose in powder form, according to claim 47, wherein the compressibility, determined according to a test A is in the range of 180 N to 200 N, and according to a test B is greater than 220 N.

60. (New) A dextrose in powder form according to claim 59, wherein the compressibility determined according to test B is greater than 230 N.